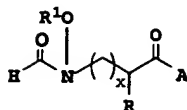


A compound of the formula



Sub A

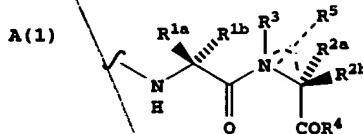
R is H, alkyl, alkenyl, aryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-,

R can be joined together with the carbon to which it is attached to form a 3 to 7 membered ring which may optionally be fused to a benzene ring;

15 alkoxy or cycloalkyl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-;

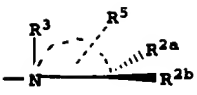
A is a dipeptide derived from one or two non-homologous amino acids or is a conformationally restricted dipeptide mimic.

20            2. The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein  
A is a dipeptide derivative of the structure



25 selected from H, alkyl, aryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, cycloalkyl,  
cycloheteroalkyl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, heteroaryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-,  
biphenylmethyl, or

30 form a 3 to 7 memebered ring, optionally fused to a

benzene ring; and  refers to an optional 5 or 6 membered ring containing a single hetero atom and which may optionally include an R<sup>5</sup> substituent which is H, alkyl, aryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>, cycloalkyl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>, cycloheteroalkyl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub> or cycloheteroaryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>;

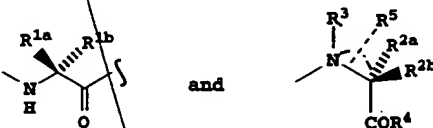
R<sup>3</sup> is H, alkyl or aryl -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>;

R<sup>4</sup> is OH, Oalkyl, Oaryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>- or NR<sub>1</sub>(R<sub>2</sub>)

where R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently H, alkyl, aryl,

10 aryl(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub> or heteroaryl(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>;

with the proviso that in A(1) at least one of



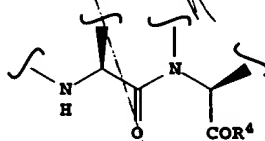
is other than a natural α-amino acid.

15 3. The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein A is a conformationally restricted dipeptide mimic.

4. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein the conformationally restricted dipeptide mimic has the structure

20

A(2)



5. The compound as defined in Claim 3 wherein A has the formula

25

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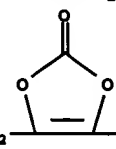
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with respect to A(5), R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, aryl -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, and heteroaryl -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, or R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> taken together with the carbon to which they are attached complete a saturated cycloalkyl ring of 3 to 7 carbons, or R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> taken together with the carbon to which they are attached complete a keto substituent,

with respect to A(13), R<sup>8</sup>, R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-, aryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-, and heteroaryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-;

R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, aryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, and heteroaryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-, or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> taken together with the carbons to which they are attached complete a saturated cycloalkyl ring of 3 to 7 carbons, R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>8</sup> taken together with the carbon to which they are attached complete a saturated cycloalkyl ring of 3 to 7 carbons, or R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> taken together with the carbon to which they are attached complete a saturated cycloalkyl ring of 3 to 7 carbons;

R<sup>4</sup> is OH, alkyl, O-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-heteroaryl,

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{O} \\ \parallel \\ -\text{CH}-\text{O}-\text{C}-\text{R}^{15} \\ | \\ \text{R}^{14} \end{array}$$
, -O-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>-aryl or  R<sup>16</sup> or NR<sub>1</sub>(R<sub>2</sub>) where R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are independently H, alkyl, aryl, aryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub> or heteroaryl;

R<sup>14</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, or phenyl;

R<sup>15</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy or phenyl;

R<sup>16</sup> is alkyl or aryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-; and

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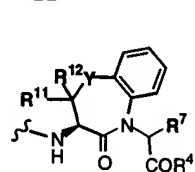
R<sup>17</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-, aryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-, or heteroaryl-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>-.

R<sup>18</sup> is H or alkyl or alkenyl, and R<sup>18</sup> and R<sup>17</sup> may be taken together with the carbon and nitrogen to which they are attached to complete a saturated N-containing ring of 5 or 6 ring members.

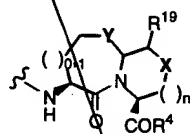
R<sup>19</sup> is H or an alkyl, and in A(4), R<sup>19</sup> and X (which is CH<sub>2</sub>) together with the carbons to which they are attached may form an aromatic ring of carbons (as in A(15)).

6. The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein A is

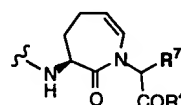
Sub  
H<sub>2</sub>



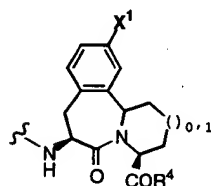
where Y = O, S, CH<sub>2</sub>, S(O)<sub>0,1,2</sub>



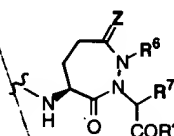
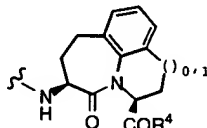
where n is 0 or 1  
where X = CH<sub>2</sub> and  
Y = O, S, CH<sub>2</sub> or S(O)<sub>0,1,2</sub>  
and X = O, S when n = 1



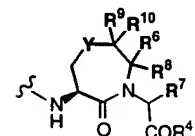
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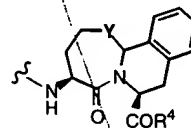
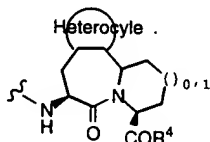
where X<sup>1</sup> = H, Ph,  
NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>5</sup>  
(where R<sup>5</sup> = H)



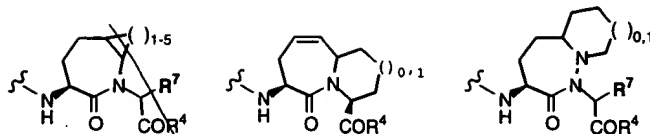
where Y = O, S, CH<sub>2</sub>, S(O)<sub>0,1,2</sub>  
where Z = O or H, H



where Y = O, S, CH<sub>2</sub>, S(O)<sub>0,1,2</sub>

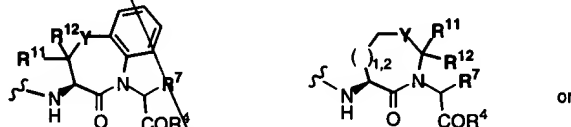


where Y = O, S, NH, S(O)<sub>0,1,2</sub>



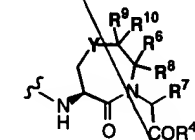
7. The compound as defined in Claim 6 wherein

A is



5

where Y = O, S, CH<sub>2</sub>, S(O)<sub>0,1,2</sub>, where Y = O, S, CH<sub>2</sub>, S(O)<sub>0,1,2</sub>



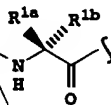
where Y = O, S, CH<sub>2</sub>, S(O)<sub>0,1,2</sub>

8. The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein

10 R<sup>1</sup> is H, R is alkyl or arylalkyl, R<sup>4</sup> is OH.

9. The compound as defined in Claim 2 where

in A(1)



is a non-proteinogenic amino acid portion.

15

10. The compound as defined in Claim 9

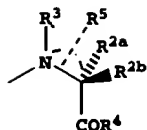
wherein R<sup>1a</sup> and R<sup>1b</sup> are independently alkyl or arylalkyl, or R<sup>1a</sup> and R<sup>1b</sup> together with the carbon to which they are attached form a 3 to 7 membered ring; or one of R<sup>1a</sup> and R<sup>1b</sup> is biphenylmethylene and the other is biphenylmethylene or H.

20

11. The compound as defined in Claim 9 where

in A(1),

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is a non-proteinogenic amino acid where  $R^3$  is H, alkyl or arylalkyl,

- $R^{2a}$  and  $R^{2b}$  are independently selected from H, alkyl, aryl or arylalkyl, with at least one of  $R^{2a}$  and  $R^{2b}$  being other than H, or  $R^{2a}$  and  $R^{2b}$  together with the carbon to which they are attached form a 3 to 7 membered ring.

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

13. The pharmaceutical composition as defined in Claim 12 useful in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases such as hypertension and/or congestive heart failure.

14. A method of treating a cardiovascular disease such as hypertension and/or congestive heart failure, which comprises administering to a mammalian species a therapeutically effective amount of a composition as defined in Claim 12.

15. The compound as defined in Claim 1 which is

